

# What's at Stake



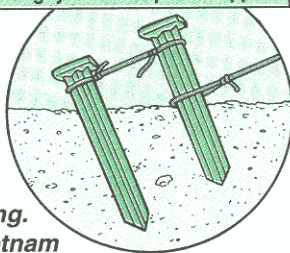
Dear Editor,

Over the years I've seen mast antennas topple, injuring soldiers and damaging equipment. The main reason they collapsed was that they were erected on soft ground, such as sand or shale. The guy stakes worked loose and failed to support the antenna's weight. Along came a stiff breeze and down went the antenna and mast.

I've found a way to strengthen the mast antenna—even in soft ground. Use two guy stakes to anchor each guy line. Drive the stakes deep into the ground and tie them in tandem. This double-staking method can handle more stress than a single stake. It increases the holding power of the stakes and lessens the risk of the antenna collapsing.

I've used double staking as far back as Vietnam and, most recently, with the New Jersey National Guard at Fort Dix, NJ. It hasn't let me down yet.

Two guy stakes improve support



LTC David M. Fiedler  
NJARNG

FROM THE DESK OF THE Editor



And you haven't let us down. Your suggestion wins our support. By the way, if you need extra guy stakes, you'll find the NSNs in the components of end item list in the antenna's -10 TM. For more information on safely erecting mast antennas, read TB 43-0129.